

MAY VIOLATE PRECEDENTS

DEMOCRATS IN SENATE HOPE TO SHOW UP A DEAL.

Believed That They Can Reveal a Collision Between the Republicans and Populists—The New Tariff Bill is Now Before the Finance Committee and a Meeting of That Body Has Been Called for Tomorrow.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.—The reorganization of the committee of the senate will be effected to-morrow by the passage of a resolution to be introduced by Mr. Mitchell, chairman of the republican steering committee. In violation of precedents for a number of years past a year and may vote will be taken upon the adoption of the resolution. The democrats intend to show to the country that the republicans have more votes in the senate than the democrats and are entitled to take control, but there is a suspicion that the democrats hope by this vote to be able to show that a deal has been made by the republicans with the populists. The republicans meet this argument with the statement that they have permitted the populists to remain just where they were under a democratic administration of the senate and a charge of a deal no more applies now than against the democrats when they assumed control.

The reorganization will not go into effect practically until Wednesday, for the present employees, committee clerks, etc., have already been paid their salaries for December. Besides the reorganization resolution an address by Mr. Lodge is on the program for Monday on the resolution now on the table relative to the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine. Mr. Lodge, who is an ardent advocate of the strict enforcement of that doctrine will doubtless make a strong speech and command the attention of the senate and the country. It is expected he will go deeply into the subject and review the historical matters. It is probable that the senate will indulge after to-morrow's session in three day recesses until the holiday season is over.

The new tariff bill is now before the finance committee and a meeting of that body has been called for Tuesday. While there will be no undue delay in reporting the bill back to the senate it is not probable the report will be made before the end of the week. The program for the house this week is one of practical idleness. Under the working of the agreement announced Saturday by Mr. Dingler, chairman of the ways and means committee, the house will be called to order Tuesday to adjourn until Friday, when the operation will be repeated, adjournment being taken that day until Monday, January 6, at which time the consideration of business will be resumed. The elections committee expect to do some work this week for the furtherance of matters committed to them.

A MYSTERIOUS CASE.

Man in New York Held Under Suspicion of Murder.

New York, Dec. 29.—Albert A. Nellis, a real estate dealer living at 251 West Seventy-sixth street, was arrested by order of Coroner Hoerber this morning on suspicion of having murdered Mrs. John Albert Runnett, who was found dead in the area way in front of Nellis' house last night. After taking the statement of several witnesses this afternoon bail was fixed at \$5,000.

Coroner Hoerber learned that Nellis lived with Mrs. Runnett and had known her for twenty years, although he denied that he knew the woman when the body was found. Mrs. Runnett, he also learned, had been an invalid for some time, and had made threats against him. The coroner also found that Mrs. Runnett had died of fracture of the skull from a blow on the back of the head. There was a scalp wound above the fracture, as if the woman had been struck with some sharp instrument. The autopsy showed that there had been considerable hemorrhage but there was little blood where the body was found, and no wound was discovered until a very careful examination had been made. A razor was found in the room of the woman's dress and some whitish powders in her pocket. The autopsy showed, however, that she had not taken poison, and it would have been easy, the coroner said, for those things to have been placed there after death. The autopsy showed that Mrs. Runnett had been addicted to the moderate use of liquor. This fact the defense is using in arguing that Mrs. Runnett fell down the stoop accidentally. Mrs. Runnett and her husband kept a boarding house, and Nellis formerly boarded with them.

A year and a half ago Nellis married a wealthy widow, Mrs. Runnett's boarding house did not prosper, and she began to call on Nellis to aid her. He made many excuses, it is said, but Mrs. Runnett became more persistent. Nellis to-day said he had known Mrs. Runnett for a number of years and that he had been on friendly terms with her and her husband. He said that shortly after 8 o'clock last night one of the servants told him that there was a drunken man lying in the area. He went down and found it was Mrs. Runnett. He sent for a policeman, who said that the woman was dead. Mrs. Harney, a niece of Mrs. Runnett, said Nellis had Mrs. Runnett arrested a month ago for annoying him. After her aunt had left home, which was about an hour before she was found dead, Mrs. Runnett told Miss Harney that Mrs. Runnett seemed to be greatly excited about something.

Police Captain Frank Noyes, who has charge of the case, thinks Mrs. Runnett went to Nellis' house with the purpose of killing him and, possibly, herself as well, with the razor found upon her.

SUPPRESSING THE FACTS.

Censorship of the Press Still Exists in Turkey.

London, Dec. 29.—The correspondent of the United Press at Constantinople says under yesterday's date:

The continuous publication and circulation of official falsehoods, together with the barricade against truth of every avenue of publicity, has become one of the most dangerous elements of the present situation at Constantinople. Censorship of the Turkish press exists. Lately its sole object has been to suppress facts and to compel publication of editorials "relative to the Armenians which are prepared at the palace, and of telegrams written under physical compulsion by wretched Armenians in the dungeons of Asiatic Turkey."

The result of this use of the press is that the Mohammedan populace and even moderately educated gentlemen at Constantinople find their chief reason for discontent with the sultan in his failure to order the destruction of the Christians generally. They suppose that the Armenians in Asiatic Turkey have murdered and pillaged great numbers of Moslems; that the reserves have been called into the field to punish and reduce to order the Armenians; that the European powers have intervened to prevent the restoration of order and that the foreign gunboats have come to the Bosphorus in order to encourage Christians in insurrection. The deduction made from this mass of error is that the Christians are preparing to massacre Moslems and that therefore Moslems must first massacre the Christians. Unquestionably the objection of this official dissemination of falsehood through the press has been to induce the ignorant and excite the intense excitement which has resulted. It is now learned that the report that the Turkish troops had captured the town of Zeitoun from the insurgent Armenians had its origin in a statement made by Gen. Mustafa Remiz, who is at Zeitoun. This report was supported by a telegram received in Constantinople from Leppo.

Semi-official reports now show that the city itself has not been taken. The place which is filled with refugees is isolated by the troops. General Remiz demanded the surrender of the city, and eighteen of the Armenian colonels went outside the fortifications to treat for surrender. Fifteen of these envoys were detained by the Turkish general, who sent the other three back with the terms he offered for the surrender of the place. These terms included the giving up of their arms by the Armenians. The Armenians from the mountains who captured the city were willing to accept the terms, but the Armenians who were in the city refused to do so. General Remiz asked for orders from Constantinople and yesterday the sultan issued an order ordering that a battle be avoided if there was any chance of procuring the surrender of Zeitoun by other means.

The missionaries at Marsovan have telegraphed to Mr. Terrell declaring that the guards formed are not present, and that in consequence their lives and property are in danger.

Mr. Terrell telegraphed to Mr. Jewett, the American consul at Sivas, instructing him to go to Marsovan, if possible. Yesterday Mr. Jewett replied that it was impossible for him to leave Sivas as an outbreak was threatened in that place.

Mr. Terrell then visited the ports where his representations resulted in an order being sent to the military commander at Marsovan to withdraw his troops and to substitute regular soldiers for the guards who had been detailed to protect the Armenians. The missionaries at Marsovan are Rev. and Mrs. John E. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. George F. Herriek, Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Teby, Rev. and Mrs. Edward Riggs, Rev. and Mrs. George E. White, Miss Frances C. Gage and Miss Martha A. King. At Sivas are Rev. A. W. Hubbard, Rev. H. L. Perry and wife and Miss Mary E. Brewer.

HE MAY BE A CANDIDATE.

Justice Brewer's Opinion Regarding Ex-President Harrison.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 29.—Justice David J. Brewer of the United States supreme court passed through this city to-day en route to Washington from San Antonio, Texas, where he has been at the bedside of his daughter, Judge Brewer, stated that the report that he had been asked to accept a place on the Venezuelan commission was untrue. He said:

"I would not be surprised if Chief Justice Fuller were tendered a place on the commission. He and the president are warm friends. The chief justice would make an excellent man for the place, but although he is witty and is capable of doing an immense amount of work, I do not think he would accept the position. He dislikes being in the public eye. As to General Harrison, I do not think that he would accept a position on the commission. He can probably make more money out of his law practice and not do such hard work. And then, although I do not know, he may be a candidate."

"Would the fact that he held a place on this commission seriously interfere with his candidacy in your opinion?" was asked.

"It would not help him any," replied Justice Brewer. "If he were a candidate he would most probably want to know where the politicians gather, and he would not have the time to do this if he sat on the commission."

Judge Brewer said: "Speaker Reed is new on trial, as it were. He has a reputation that is a difficult one to fill, and the next few months will make or break him. McKinley will enter the convention with the most votes, but I do not think either he or Morton will be able to control it. In that case they will compromise upon some man acceptable to both, and it would not surprise me if that man were Allison."

ABOUT EPISCOPALIANISM

THE THIRD IN THE SERIES OF LECTURES BY REV. MR. DICKERSON.

Preached at Church of the Messiah Last Evening—The Creed Not Like a Fire Insurance Company—How It Differs From Methodism—In It Good Points Much Like Catholicism—Some Hard Hits and Worthy Praise.

At the Church of the Messiah last evening Rev. W. F. Dickerson, the pastor, spoke to a large congregation on "The Good Things of Episcopalianism." He took for a text Tim. iii, 14, 15. He spoke as follows: "The Episcopal church has been regarded as a harmless form of Catholicism, and as we took closely at it we see that it does present some similar features. There is the same family likeness between the two churches, both externally and internally. Even in architecture the prevailing type in both is Gothic; there is the symbolic window behind the altar, the robed minister. Members are taken in similar ways. Ministers are ordained almost precisely the same grand way, the bishop pronounces the grand papal benediction as he lays his hand on the head of the candidate. Regular baptism, the observance of the sacrament, and loyalty to the church are regarded as paramount institutions, although a person in the Episcopal church need not recognize all of the thirty-nine articles. Provided he has been loyal to the sacrament of the church these omissions may be passed over. This great incident observed by those outside of the church causes the impression to get abroad that one may believe as he pleases and yet belong to the Episcopal church if he is faithful to the church in other respects. The Episcopal church has not been fanatical in matters of religion. It is almost certain that the church has not history before the reign of Henry VIII, or about 1533. He who was defender of the faith became defender of the Church of England. It was claimed that the English church originated with the apostles, that the ministrations were evidenced in England at an early period, and that the English church came down from Oriental Christians and not from missionaries from the fourth century, but during the fifth and sixth centuries the invasions of the Danes practically exterminated church, but in the seventh century, under St. Augustine, there came a revival. Disputes arose between the English church and Roman priests, which were settled in favor of the latter so that Rome claims to have founded the English church, and to have been recognized as the founder. The reformer spirit came into the English Catholic church at the time of Luther, and was led by Sir Thomas Moore, Luther and Collett received not much sympathy in their work, and Henry VIII wrote a book against them.

The contention in 1588 of the long religious dispute was followed by great bloodshed. At about that time the evangelist movement of the low church began. Soon the broad church arose under the leadership of Thomas Arnold, and the high church under Newman. All three of these are found in the Episcopal church to-day. The influence of the high church party was a great help to the established church party, and did for it what the Council of Trent did for the Catholic church. It strengthened the spirit of reverence in the church. In the present United States the elders of Virginia first established the Church of England. Churches were built in New York and other cities, but in New England it gained a foothold with great difficulty. The governors maintained it and the church in ever increasing numbers loyal to the crown. A few years later taking the Tory side. When the colonies became independent of England the church of America considered a government of its own necessary. The clergy of Connecticut first elected Dr. Scamman to go to the mother country, and he was consecrated in Aberdeen in 1784. A form of liturgy was issued in 1786, differing slightly from the English prayer book. It attained the present form in 1789. It has been proposed to change the name of the church to the American Catholic church, but this has never been adopted. The doctrine of the Episcopal church are orthodox and similar to those of the Catholic church, both in the prayer book and in the thirty-nine articles. No extreme prayer is allowed and even the hymns must be approved by proper authorities. The trinity is held prominent in the statement of belief and in the regular service. It is difficult to expound the articles of the Episcopal church as the high and low church have different views on certain points, although united on the fundamental principles.

The belief of the high church is that there is a perfect descent of St. Peter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, but in the low church the theory of apostolic descent has not much weight. The low church represents the evangelist, a decidedly religious party, which lays great stress on the Bible and not much on ceremony. The broad church lays great stress on form ceremony, and the apostolic descent. The high church enjoys the ceremonies artistically, but interprets the apostles' creed and the thirty-nine articles in a liberal way. There is in the church a tendency toward ritualism and one toward agnosticism. Rome looks on and says the general tendency is in her direction. Puritans and Methodists divide the Episcopal church as cold and formal in its service, and say there is no religion there, but we cannot estimate a man's work by the frequency with which he reads his prayers, or the volubility with which he extemporizes. If we have learned to look deeper and to find the worthiness shown by his fruits rather than the visible forms of service. There is especially

for the world's championship. Dallas, Tex., Dec. 29.—Dan Stuart to-day received a telegram announcing that Griffo and Jack Everhardt had signed to fight for the lightweight championship of the world, for a purse of \$4,000 a side and a side bet of \$1,000.

Lieutenant Governor Cooke Much Better. Riverton, Dec. 29.—Lieutenant Governor Lorin A. Cooke is reported to-day by Dr. Moore as being absolutely out of danger, and practically recovered.

Fined for Cheating. Cincinnati, Dec. 29.—R. W. Webster was fined \$25 and sentenced to thirty days in the workhouse yesterday for cheating the Gibson house out of a \$9.75 board bill. His sentence was suspended until January 2, however, when he told Chief Deitch that his real name was W. R. Comer and that his father was W. R. Comer, ex-president of the Falls Heater company of Boston, Mass.

Gladstone's Birthday. London, Dec. 29.—To-day is the eighty-sixth anniversary of the birth of Mr. Gladstone. Many of the liberal clubs organized throughout the kingdom telegraphed congratulations to Hawarden castle, where the telegrams were forwarded to Biarritz, France, where Mr. Gladstone is.

In the Episcopal church an air of culture evidently following from "Let all things be done decently and in order." The church has always been free from everything erratic and fanatical in religion. There is nothing wild, but everything that is thoughtful and precise, striking not in sympathy with the popular religious uprisings. It makes no room in its religion for popular revivals and is free from religious weakness; and in other words it minds its own business. It is willing to share with other religious bodies the rights which belong to them in common.

Methodists believe that conversion must be expressed and that faith must be proved by text. Catholics and Episcopalians represent ceremony and symbolism. Neither of the latter churches any applying for instantaneously getting religion, as they have no use for revival terms. They do not believe that one can get religion as he can get the measles. All special machinery for conversion is absent. The work of the Episcopal church is predominantly educational and not apologetic. There is never any necessity for mourning over its members. It lies with many ropes and if one falls the others will hold. It sends as well as it is possible, because it does not disagree with it, and it does not call people of other churches children of the devil. Large room is made in prayer and thought for the salvation of all. In this respect the Catholic church goes to the extreme of making provision for the unconscious man and does not turn his case out of court at death, but gives him a chance for a new trial and so has even a larger room than the Episcopal church for men's salvation. The idea of salvation among evangelical sects is the belief in the ability of man to prevent himself from being precipitated into a dangerous place in the next world. The Episcopal church procures salvation as education, religion, culture, devotion, and character. It never stands before the public to say "We're here to snatch people from hell," nor does it try to make an insurance business out of that of a religious nature. While not here as a fire insurance company yet it might write a policy of some sort. While Methodism is the most business-like of religions, the Episcopal church is the most business-like of the opposite. It is poetry and applies not to commercial and legal facilities but to the aesthetic, not to science but to art, not to philosophy but to music. Its pulpit is not an arena and is not given to the dissemination of wild theories. There is a great range of opinion in the Episcopal church, but all find fellowship under the same form of religion. This is proved by the fact that Gladstone, Dr. Dever and the holding distinct ideas on certain points are yet united in the church. In the early history of our country the Episcopal church did great service. In scenes of religious fanaticism it came in with its dignified service and did much to correct things erratic and irregular and has made an equilibrium in religious affairs, a great thing in a new country where the people are apt to indulge their feelings rather than their intellects. The Episcopalian mode is one of calm reflection and deliberation, not swayed by the tide of public feeling. Would that our men of letters were characterized by this spirit.

The lecture next Sunday evening will be on "The Good Things of Congregationalism."

First Baptist Church Services. The praise service at the First Baptist church last evening was largely attended and was highly successful. The choir at this church have made quite a reputation for themselves and their special musical services always prove interesting and attractive. The program last night was of the most excellent and everything went well and great credit is due to all the performers. The quartet is nicely balanced and the shading and expression are good. The solo work was excellent, notably that of Miss Loomis, than whom there is no better soprano in this city at present. Mr. Edgar sang Shole's "Christmas" by request, as he has done now for two years back. Miss Klock, who is a pupil of Traumann, is constantly improving. In place of Miss Bennett, who was to have assisted the choir in the quartet numbers, Miss Loomis sang solo. Miss Sanford has been studying with Mr. E. A. Hayes in New York this winter. Mr. Newton, the organist of the church, played the somewhat hackneyed Panfare, by Lemmens, but he did so at special request of some of the members of the church. It is always popular and is bright and appropriate for the Christmas season.

For the World's Championship. Dallas, Tex., Dec. 29.—Dan Stuart to-day received a telegram announcing that Griffo and Jack Everhardt had signed to fight for the lightweight championship of the world, for a purse of \$4,000 a side and a side bet of \$1,000.

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SHE WAS ROASTED BY A MOB

HORRIBLE PUNISHMENT INFLICTED ON A WOMAN.

The House Occupied by Her and Her Paramour Set Afire and She Was Burned to Death While He Was Killed in His Attempt to Escape—The Little Daughter of the Man an Eye Witness.

Lebanon, Ky., Dec. 29.—A mob last night burned Mrs. T. J. West alive and killed W. A. Dever, her paramour, at Mrs. West's house on Cartwright creek, three miles north. The mob is said to have numbered about seventy-five, and it was about 12 o'clock when they appeared at the house. Mrs. West, Dever and his little daughter were the only persons in the house.

The mob called for Dever to come out. Mrs. West and the little girl responded, but Dever remained inside. Just as Mrs. West reached the door several shots were fired at her and she ran back into the house, but the mob remained on the outside. The mob then fired several shots into the house, tore it apart with their hands and after several attempts to get Dever out the mob fired the building.

The intense heat finally forced Dever to run out and with pistols in hand he started to a cornfield a few steps from the house, where he took shelter behind a corn shock. He was soon shot to death. Mrs. West perished in the burning house, and this morning her remains were found in the chimney, where she had taken refuge. Her legs and the upper portion of her body were almost entirely burned off.

The little girl gave the alarm this morning, but only meagre information can be gained from her. Dever shot and killed T. J. West, the husband of the burned woman, at Beaver Green, on December 7. Dever had a preliminary hearing and was released on the ground of self-defense. West had accused Dever of adultery with Mrs. West and had snapped a pistol at him. After Dever was released he was charged with living with the woman. It is said Dever had been warned that he would be killed if he did not leave. He leaves a wife and several children. West also leaves a large family. The coroner's jury has so far failed to return a verdict.

Closed the Contract. Jackson, Mich., Dec. 29.—General R. A. Alger of Detroit and D. W. Smith and General W. H. Withington of this city, comprising the Blair memorial commission, appointed by Governor Rich last spring to contract for a memorial statue to Austin Blair, Michigan's war governor, closed the contract yesterday with Sculptor Potter of Englefield, Mass., for the work. Signor Gaetano Trevisanovic of Milwaukee was the other competitor. The statue is to be placed in the capitol at Lansing.

So It's a Syndicate. Chicago, Dec. 29.—A special from Denver, Col., says it is reported on what is regarded as good authority that eight hundred acres of placer ground and eleven gold claims have been sold to a Welsh syndicate for \$3,600,000. The property is situated in Chaffee county six miles southeast of the stage road that leads to Leadville and Aspen. The ground has been worked for the last year in a small scale. Title was invested in C. J. Johnson of Canon City, Col., through whom the buyers gain possession. Robinson & Co., of Cardiff, are said to be the purchasers. They are represented to be a banking firm of South Wales with a commercial rating of a hundred million.

Jealousy and Murder. Weldon, Ill., Dec. 29.—Dr. W. H. Taylor, a member of the lower house of the general assembly, was shot and instantly killed last night by John H. Pave, the postmaster of this town. Pave, a peaceable self-defense, while Taylor's friends assert that the shooting was premeditated and the result of jealousy.

Died of Lockjaw. Salem, Mass., Dec. 29.—James King died at the hospital to-day of lockjaw, caused by injuries received by the explosion of a blast he was trying to remove from a ledge a week ago. The direct result of the accident was the loss of two or three fingers.

Fell Overboard and Drowned. North Sydney, C. E., Dec. 29.—Captain George Piercy, master of the barkentine Maggie, coal laden, hence for St. John's, N. F., fell overboard and was drowned as the vessel was leaving the harbor this afternoon.

Kitchen Bar-rooms Raided and Much Liquor Confiscated Yesterday. The police made several raids on kitchen bar-rooms yesterday. Antonio De Nardo's place at 387 Oak street was entered about noon by Deputy Sheriff Warren and Patrolmen Cooney and McGovern. A quantity of beer was confiscated and De Nardo was arrested, charged with violating the liquor laws. Giovanni Rizzotto lives near the corner of Lafayette and Broad streets. He has been suspected of selling beer and liquor in his living apartments and yesterday afternoon about 4:30 o'clock Officers Cooney, Cook and McGovern swooped down on the place and confiscated a case of beer. Rizzotto was placed under arrest.

The Police Are Active. The police also visited 366 Columbus avenue, where it is alleged that Charles Fusco carries on a Sunday business. At this place a quantity of stuff was found and it was taken to police headquarters. Fusco was not arrested, but a warrant will probably be issued for him to-day.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Of Howard Avenue Congregational Church Appropriately Commemorated Yesterday Sermon by the Pastor—Addresses in the Evening.

The thirtieth anniversary of the organization of Howard Avenue Congregational church was very appropriately commemorated yesterday. Large congregations were present and in the gathering were not a few old familiar faces long absent, owing to residence elsewhere. In the morning the pastor, Rev. Mr. Mutch, preached the anniversary sermon. The text was: "He that overcometh, I will give to him to sit down with Me in My throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with My Father in His throne."—Rev. 3-21.

In the discourse the pastor said: "The society of Christ aims to teach Christian wisdom. It is saying still in the words of the Holy One to the angel of the church in Laodicea: 'Because thou sayest, I am rich, and have gotten riches, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched and miserable and blind and naked; I counsel thee to buy of me gold refined by fire, that thou mayest become rich; and white garments, that thou mayest clothe thyself, and that the shame of thy nakedness be not made manifest; and eye salve to anoint thine eyes, that thou mayest see.' It is pointing the world to Him whose society is worth more than the society of princes and millionaires, and who says: 'Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me. That is what is meant by the society of Christ, and in that society there is hope. He that is wise will avail himself of it."

"There is one exhortation in the message to the church in Laodicea, which is much needed among the churches of to-day, and that is, with their wisdom to be zealous. The lack of Christian zeal kills fellowship, and neutralizes the enthusiasm of its noble society. The great cause is lost sight of, and its advocates become like mercenary soldiers. Let us welcome anything that is according to wisdom, if it will awaken the zeal of the society of Christ. The city of Columbus where Mr. Mills has just completed a month's campaign has awakened to a Christian zeal the like of which has never experienced before. We may well believe that here also there is to be an arousing of dormant energies. If the society of Christ awakes to its full social strength, nothing can stand between it and the throne of its power. Righteousness will be enthroned in the domain of individual life in the domain of the home and the church and the city and the state and the world.

"For thirty years this church has been striving to realize the society of Christ. For hundreds of people it has transformed the way of the cross into a way of glory, by the splendid fellowship of Christ and His followers which it has brought to that way. In this goodly company many have been enabled to strive and to overcome, and are now sitting with the Father in His throne. Three of those who have ministered in this pulpit are there; and they are now able to see eye to eye, and to feel how much more blessed is the society of the throne than the society of the cross. Let the victories they achieved inspire us to more earnest striving, that we also may overcome and sit with them in the Father's throne of power. The cross is heavy upon us. In many ways we must be crucified with Him. But with Him we are now crucified. We are not alone when His Spirit helpeth our infirmities. We are in a great army. We have a noble cause. With a new zeal let us gird ourselves for the strife that is yet before us ere we reach our place in the Father's throne."

In the evening the exercises consisted of addresses by ex-Judge R. S. Pickett, J. W. Townsend, Captain M. A. Buttrick, Charles B. Foote, and Willis N. Burdick.

To-morrow evening, December 31, there will be held a consecration meeting and roll call.

Following this there will be a social gathering, to which all are cordially invited to remain.

To-morrow evening—New Year's eve—should be the greatest social reunion which the church has experienced in five years. The first half of the evening will be given to brief words of testimony and resolution. The second half of the evening will be devoted to mere informal social intercourse.

A BENEFIT FOR THE BLIND. The Operetta, "Sleeping Queen," to be Given This Evening for Their Benefit—A Lovable Object.

Nearly 600 tickets have been sold for the operetta, "Sleeping Queen," to be produced at the Hyperion this evening for the benefit of the State Institute for the benefit of the blind. The piece is interesting, the scene being laid at the court of Leon in Spain. It was written by Balfe, the author of "The Bohemian Girl." Florence E. Lindsay of Hartford has charge of the arrangements, representing Frank E. Cleveland, president of the state institute. The cast of characters will be as follows: Donna Agnes—Mrs. Virginia P. Marwick. Queen—Mrs. Francis A. Smith. Regent—Alfred Barrington. An exile—Herbert L. Maercklein. Mrs. Harriet Crane Pitblado will be the accompanist.

The entertainment promises to be a good one and this with the worthy object for which it has been arranged should draw a good house.

No Prospects of Peace. Rome, Dec. 29.—A Massow dispatch says that the leading Abyssinian chiefs have held a council and decided to renounce the prospects for peace with the Italians.

A BLAZE IN THE STABLES

OF CHARLES E. CRUTTENDEN ON UNION STREET LAST NIGHT.

All of the Forty Horses Safely Taken Out—To Accomplish This the Stablemen Had to Fight the Smoke and Cut the Halters—Their Good Work Praised—The Fire Department Prevented a Probable Conflagration.

An alarm of fire was sounded from box 26, corner of Chapel and Union streets, at 11:30 o'clock last night. The blaze was in the loft of an old frame barn in the rear of Charles E. Cruttenden's stables on Union street. It was discovered by Henry Smith, colored, the night watchman. He was on one of his rounds when he heard a crackling and turning his head toward an opening to the loft he saw flames eating out.

There were three stablemen sleeping there and without delay Smith rushed up the stairs and aroused them. Every moment the smoke was thickening and becoming more and more suffocating. There were some forty horses tied in the stalls just under the loft. The four men with reckless bravery rushed to release the beasts. The animals had sniffed the heavy smoke and were becoming excited. There was no time to untie them.

The men whipped out their knives and cut the halters. They led the animals toward the front entrance and turned them into Union street. Officers Allan and Egan also assisted. At one time it looked as if the men would have to abandon their work for the smoke was pouring forth in heavy volumes. Some of the horses became terribly excited and after getting half way out of the stables would turn back into the smoke.

When this difficulty stared the stablemen in the face they took whips and helped the beasts to the street. In not much over ten minutes from the time the alarm sounded every horse was out of the barn and words of praise could be heard on every side for the prompt and effective work of the men. More than two-thirds of the animals were boarded and were owned by merchants and private individuals.

Some of them were quite valuable. Max Adler had two horses there, Mr. Zunder, Dr. Boschen, Dr. Kelley, Charles MacGivray, Paul Well, Samuel Mann, Louis M. Ullman and Isaac Ullman kept their horses at the stables. E. E. Nichols, the State street grocer, had three horses at the stables. When the news of the fire got abroad many owners hurried to the scene and were greatly satisfied to find that their horses had not been suffocated and were all right.

The scene was exciting for a short time. The animals scampered in every direction. Some of the citizens about the streets caught a few of them and kindly tied them to nearby posts. Mr. Cruttenden appeared in good season and directed his attention to the horses, which were placed in various stables over night. At a late hour it was not known whether every one of them had been caught.

In the meantime the firemen were also doing good work. Chief Kennedy was on hand from the beginning, as was William C. Smith, the electrician. They directed the efforts of the firemen in such an effective way that in less than three-quarters of an hour the ugly little blaze was subdued, although the recall was not sounded until long after. The origin of the fire is not known. There were several tons of straw in the loft and had it not been for the quick response of the fire department it is likely that the big stable would have been completely gutted. The electric lights in the buildings, which were not put out, greatly facilitated the work of the men. The loss will not be very great. Last night Mr. Cruttenden stated that he could not estimate it. He is fully insured. John E. Beady of the Western Union pulled the box at the direction of John M. Howard, the night manager.

PASSED SUDDENLY AWAY. Death From an Apoplectic Stroke of D. C. Winans, the Center Street Jeweler.

D. C. Winans, the Center street watchmaker and optician, died suddenly at 2 o'clock yesterday morning from a stroke of apoplexy. On Saturday he had been about his business as usual. The first signs of any serious illness were manifested about 11 o'clock Saturday night. He was returning home from town and had just got off a car at the corner of Portsea street and Howard avenue when he was seen to stagger and fall to the sidewalk. He managed to sit up and then became violently sick to the stomach. Patrolman J. T. McGrath and another policeman came along and found Mr. Winans. Not understanding the exact condition of the man they were about to call for the patrol wagon when Nicholas Countryman appeared. He stated that he knew Mr. Winans and would see that the gentleman was taken home.

Mr. Winans' residence was at 267 Portsea street, and he was carefully removed to his home. Medical attendance was summoned but the man was beyond aid. At 2 o'clock in the morning he quietly passed away. He leaves a wife and one son. He was for ten or fifteen years in the employ of S. C. Bartram, the gold and silver refiner, and for the last eight or ten years had been in business for himself. He was an old fellow and a Knight of Pythias, and had a host of friends here.

Unknown Man Found. Providence, Dec. 29.—In the woods at Ryeboth this morning the body of an unknown man was found. He had shot himself in the head and had probably died instantly. The body was that of a man thirty-eight or forty years old, of medium complexion.